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#### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 26 and ending at page 9, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The MG 24 is a device that provides an interface between a switch fabric and the ~~BTN 1622~~. The MG 24 sets up, tears down, and caches virtual trunks through the ~~BTN 1622~~. The switch fabric may be a switch fabric of an SSP, or a component of the MG 24, in which case the MG 24 serves as a Line Gateway and it supports subscriber equipment directly. The switch fabric supports the connection and disconnection of any two peripherals, including subscriber telephone devices, trunk peripherals, Intelligent Peripherals 18 or connections to MGs 24.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 5 and ending at page 13, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5 is a schematic illustration of a prior art method of enabling voice interaction with subscribers in the provision of a service feature. In a "send to resource" TCAP transaction, an SCP 16 of the CCS network 10, in conjunction with an Intelligent Peripheral 18 controlled by the SCP 16, enables a service feature that involves requesting a calling party to select an item from a menu presented by voice prompts played to the subscriber by the Intelligent Peripheral 18. The calling party (not shown) dials a number that is received by the SSP 14. In step 100, the SSP 14 translates the dialed digits, which prompts it to formulate and send a TCAP Query with Permission (QwP) message to the ~~SCP 1816~~. In step 102, the ~~SCP 18-16~~ translates the dialed digits, and directs the SSP 14 to send the call to a resource (the Intelligent Peripheral 18) in a TCAP Conversation with Permission (CwP) message. The SSP 14 therefore connects the calling party's subscriber line to the Intelligent Peripheral (step 104), and directs the Intelligent Peripheral to play the voice prompts. The Intelligent Peripheral plays the voice prompts and collects digits in step 106. The collected digits are relayed to the SSP 14 (step 108) and then to the SCP 16 (step 110). The SCP returns a TCAP CwP message containing a directive to clear the resource (step 112). The SSP 14 releases the connection to the Intelligent Peripheral 18 in steps 114, 116 and 118, and returns a resource clear TCAP CwP message to the SCP in

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step 120. The SCP then returns a TCAP Response message (step 122) directing the CS  
SSP 14 to terminate the call at a telephone address selected by the subscriber in response to  
the voice prompts played by the Intelligent Peripheral 18.